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ABSTRACT

A sutured staple, instrument and method are provided for constructing a graft-to-artery anastomosis and other soft tissue anastomoses, particularly by minimally invasive (or endoscopic) surgery. The sutured staple is comprised of a needle, pin, base and flange. The needle allows this surgical staple to be sewn through, for example, a graft and artery to be joined, and the pin, base and flange are formed to seal the graft and artery together between cooperating surfaces of the base and flange. The instrument holds the staple at its distal or working end, and controls in the handle allow application of the staple. The method employs the sutured staples and instrument to join soft tissues and to construct graft-to-artery anastomoses.

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